Task Force on Development of Airports in North Eastern Region

654, SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Task Force set up by Government on Development of Airports in the North-East has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations by the Task Force; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Major recommendations relate to:—

(i) Development of airport infrastructure viz. construction of runways, terminal buildings, installation of modern navigational systems, etc.;

(ii) improvement in air services i.e airlinking capitals of all the North Eastern States, induction of 50 seater aircfrat; and

(iii) tax concessions and creation of Civil Aviation Development Fund to make air services economically viable.

(c) The Report has been forwarded to all concerned including State Governments, and follow-up action is being reviewed periodi cally.

Non-utilisation of funds for development projects

655. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that funds allocated for development projects have remained unutilised this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to utilise them this year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE .MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b). Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Do not arise. However, Airports Authority of India hat, in addition to funds allocated by Government, its own fund which do not lapse.

Enhancement of flight service between Kerala and North-Eastern States

656. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from persons to reach Kerala on the same day from Calcutta and North-East;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Calcutta passengers do not getting any connecting flight to Cochin or Trivandrum from Chennai or Bangalore; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to adjust the flight schedule accordingly?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Scheduling constraints do not permit Indian Airlines to provide same day connection from Calcutta and North-East to Thiruvananthapuram and Cochin via Chennai and Bangalore. However, passengers from Calcutta can get connection to Cochin via Mumbai on the same day.

Transfer policy in Airports Authority of India

657. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pi«sed to state:

(a) the norms fixed with regard to transfer of employees of communication wing of Airports Authority of India at IGI airport, New Delhi;

(b) the number of officials and employees working on the same airport from 6, 10 and 20 years in different categories;